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51 SEACROFT
SKEGNESS, LINCOLNSHIRE
PAR 71, 6,492 YARDS

DESIGNER: Willie Fernie
GREEN FEES: £48 weekdays, £60 weekends
TEL: 01754 763020
This classic out and back links generally flies under the radar but those who have travelled to this corner of Lincolnshire all insist it is of the very highest order. Views of the Wash, blind shots, proper pot bunkers and a stiff coastal wind are just some of the reasons why Seacroft features above better-known courses in this list.



50 LIPHOOK
LIPHOOK, HAMPSHIRE
PAR 70, 6,295 YARDS

DESIGNER: Arthur Croome
GREEN FEES: £58 weekdays, £74 weekends
TEL: 01428 723785
Liphook doesn't reach 6,300 off the tips but the heather, gorse and pine trees which line its relatively narrow fairways ensure it is still a test today, just as it was when it was established in 1922. Rhododendrons add to the colour in the spring – in fact, now is a very good time to enjoy this Hampshire classic.



49 WEST LANCS
BLUNDELLSANDS, MERSEYSIDE
PAR 72, 7,055 YARDS

DESIGNER: Ken Cotton/Fred Hawtree
GREEN FEES: £90 weekdays
TEL: 0151 924 1076
West Lancs was founded in 1873 by members of Royal Liverpool on the nearby Wirral. It has never quite gained the recognition it deserved, but a beautifully-conditioned course and a new clubhouse are starting to reap rewards. A superb traditional links which will be a very hot contender to make it into our GB&I Top 100 next year.



48 SOUTHPORT & AINSDALE
SOUTHPORT, MERSEYSIDE
PAR 72, 6,836 YARDS

DESIGNER: James Braid
GREEN FEES: £85 weekdays, £105 weekends
TEL: 01704 578000
A former Ryder Cup venue which has recently been updated. The 2nd and the 16th holes have both been changed by Mackenzie & Ebert; the 2nd green has moved 60 yards back and right, and the 16th has a new fairway bunker at 270 yards. The 17th has a new back tee.



47 ST MELLION
SALTASH, CORNWALL
PAR 72, 7,019 YARDS

DESIGNER: Jack Nicklaus
GREEN FEES: £75-£85 weekdays, £95 weekends
TEL: 01579 351351
Nicklaus' first European design underwent major work on every bunker and tee and improved its drainage two years ago – and returned to Golf World's Top 100 as a result. Though a return to the tour schedule has fallen through, it is still extremely exacting – Australian Brett Ogle once walked off the course saying it was too hard.



46 THE BELFRY BRABAZON
WISHAW, WARWICKSHIRE
PAR 72, 7,285 YARDS

DESIGNER: Peter Alliss/Dave Thomas
GREEN FEES: £150
TEL: 0300 500 0405
After Wentworth's West and the Old Course, this is probably the most recognised in the country having staged the Ryder Cup on four occasions. A lot has been spent on improvements, with new holes – particularly the much better 6th and 7th – and better drainage.



45 REMEDY OAK
RINGWOOD, DORSET
PAR 72, 7,006 YARDS

DESIGNER: John Jacobs
GREEN FEES: £95
TEL: 01202 812070
Remedy Oak only opened for play in 2005 but is already impressing good judges. Designed by legendary teacher and former Ryder Cup captain John Jacobs, it is much more accessible to visitors than it once was. The 7th is a tough par 4 but, showing it has nice variety, the next is a short, risk-and-reward two-shotter.



44 WEST HILL
BROCKWOOD, SURREY
PAR 69, 6,378 YARDS

DESIGNER: Cuthbert Butchart/Willie Park
GREEN FEES: £70 weekdays, £80 weekends (after 3pm)
TEL: 01483 474365
It was laid out by Cuthbert Butchart from Carnoustie, who was engaged by Marguerite Lubbock, a passionate golfer who was unable to become a member of any of the established clubs in the area. Butchart (later a noted clubmaker) did a fine job, demonstrated by the fact little has changed about West Hill since he finished it in 1907.



43 NEW ZEALAND
WEST BYFLEET, SURREY
PAR 68, 5,947 YARDS

DESIGNER: Samuel Fergusson/Tom Simpson
GREEN FEES: £95 a day, weekdays only
TEL: 01932 345049
It is under 6,000 yards, but its par of 68 ensures a round here isn't necessarily littered with birdie – the course has six par 4s over 400 yards. Most of the holes are played through avenues of birch, pine and heather. The clubhouse is suitably understated and the members' names are written on lockers in chalk.